

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend the Claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A sachet comprising:
a tray portion to which is non-releasably sealably affixed a composite releasably sealable structure; said composite releasably sealable structure comprising:
at least a first layer overlaying a second layer; said first layer comprising a semi-rigid member and said second layer comprising a film layer; said composite releasably sealable structure including an aperture region therein; said aperture region comprising a first sub-aperture region in said first layer in communication with a second sub-aperture region located in said second layer; said second sub-aperture region comprising a rupturable portion of the second layer such that, upon a first rupture of the aperture region, the second sub-aperture ruptures to form a releasably sealable channel film component ~~such that, upon application of opening force, the first and second sub-aperture regions rupture so as to open the sachet and wherein, upon at least one of releasing the opening force and application of closing force, the first sub-aperture region closes such that the first layer again overlays the film component so as to reseal the sachet~~ and wherein said first layer is sealed to said second layer around said aperture region to form an annular seal surrounding said aperture region; said annular seal remaining intact after the first rupture of said aperture region.
2. (Previously Presented) The sachet of Claim 1, further comprising a second upper film layer arranged on said first layer.
3. (Previously Presented) The sachet of Claim 1 wherein said first sub-aperture region comprises a score line in said first layer.
4. (Cancelled)
5. (Cancelled)
6. (Currently Amended) A method of forming a sachet, said sachet comprising a first film layer to which is non-releasably sealably affixed a composite releasably sealable structure; said composite releasably sealable structure comprising a semi-rigid member and a second film layer; said composite releasably sealable structure including an aperture region

therein; said aperture region comprising a first sub-aperture region in said semi-rigid member in communication with a second sub-aperture region located in said second film layer; said second sub-aperture region comprising a rupturable region of the second film layer and wherein the semi-rigid member is arranged such that the semi-rigid member is arranged externally to the second film layer; said method comprising the steps of:

a. forming an annular seal between the semi-rigid member and the second film layer about the rupturable region;

[[a]] b. forming an array of indentations in the first film layer, each indentation defining a tray portion;

[[b]] c. injecting a flowable substance into said indentations;

[[c]] d. placing said composite releasably sealable structure over said array of indentations;

[[d]] e. non-releasably sealing peripheral portions of said indentations to said composite releasably sealable structure thereby to form an array of sachets.

7. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6 wherein said steps are performed in a batch mode.

8. (Currently Amended) A sachet for the packaging and dispensing of a flowable substance, comprising a semi-rigid member having formed thereon a weakened region so that upon bending across said weakened region said semi-rigid member will fracture along said weakened region, a reservoir ~~means~~ formed by overlaid first and second flexible film layers and adapted to contain said flowable substance, said first and second flexible film layers being non-releasably affixed with said semi-rigid member such that the semi-rigid member is externally arranged and including an aperture region of the second film layer arranged at a location proximate to said weakened region; said aperture region comprising a rupturable ~~film~~ component of the second flexible film layer; the region of the said second flexible film layer immediately surrounding said aperture being sealed to the adjacent region of the said semi-rigid member so as to inhibit leakage of said flowable substance from within the said reservoir ~~means~~, whereby fracturing along said weakened region will expose the said aperture so as to allow the said flowable substance to be dispensed.

9. (Previously Presented) The sachet of claim 8 wherein the weakened region comprises a score line across said semi-rigid member.

10. (Previously Presented) The sachet of claim 8 wherein the first and second flexible film layers comprise separate flexible film members affixed together at their respective peripheral regions.

11. (Currently Amended) A sachet for the packaging and dispensing of an item or a flowable substance, said sachet comprising a semi-rigid member having formed thereon a weakened region so that upon bending across said weakened region said semi-rigid member will fracture along said weakened region so as to define a first sub-aperture region, a reservoir means formed by overlaid first and second flexible film layers and adapted to contain said item or flowable substance, said first and second flexible film layers being non-releasably affixed with said semi-rigid member such that the semi-rigid member is externally arranged; said second flexible film layer incorporating a second sub-aperture region comprising a rupturable film component and wherein the second film layer is sealed to the adjacent region of the said semi-rigid member about the second sub-aperture so as to inhibit leakage of said item or flowable substance from within the said reservoir means, whereby fracturing along said weakened region will expose the said aperture so as to allow said item or flowable substance to be dispensed.

12. (Previously Presented) The sachet of Claim 1, wherein the second sub-aperture region defines a generally annular rupturable region of said film component.

13. (Previously Presented) The sachet of Claim 12, wherein the second sub-aperture is generally circularly annular and is generally centrally arranged in the second layer.

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Previously Presented) The method of Claim 6, further comprising forming the second sub-apertures as annular rupturable regions in the second film layer generally centrally arranged with respect to the tray portions.